

# Addition

We teach the children a sequence of skills when learning addition, starting with very practical activities and moving to more formal pencil and paper recordings. It is important that the children understand that, in addition, the numbers will be getting **higher** as we add two amounts together.

## Key Vocabulary

We need to teach the children to understand the different ways that we refer to addition. Try to vary your language as you talk about your Numicon activities, using some of the words suggested below:

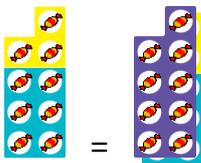
**add, and, adding, addition, plus, altogether, total**

What is 4 **add** 5? What does it make **altogether**? Can you find the **total** of these two numbers?

1 Challenge your child to find two Numicon tiles that make the same shape as a 7 tile. They can find it out by laying them over a 7. If they fit exactly then they are correct, if not do they need another tile that is **larger** or **smaller**? Talk about what they have found out – a 3 and a 4 are the same as 7, I can make 7 with 3 and 4. Repeat with other numbers, or challenge them to find different ways of making the same number.



2 Lay out two Numicon tiles and fill them up with small objects. Ask your child to find out how many there are **altogether** – what do they think we need to do to find out? Show how to check the answer by finding the correct tile to match. If they fit over each other exactly, and all of the objects still fit, then you are right! Talk about what it means – say the number sentence (*six plus three equals 9 altogether*).



3 Write a simple number sentence, e.g.  $3 + 5 =$   
Read what it says and talk about what they think you need to do. Find the correct Numicon tiles and fit them together, counting all of the holes to find out the answer. They can check the answer by overlaying the correct tile, as before. Look carefully at how to fit the tiles together neatly.



4	<p>Add together two numbers that go over the tens boundary, e.g. <math>7 + 6 = 13</math>. They won't be able to show their answer by putting a single tile over the top, but they could be laying over a 10 (always start with a 10) and a 3. We know from before that a 10 and a 3 is... 13!</p> 
5	<p>Give your child addition number sentences to solve independently, using the Numicon tiles. They could try recording their work with numbers, or they could draw around or print with the Numicon tiles to show what they have done. Encourage them to always <i>check</i> their work by matching the tiles, as above.</p> <p>Try to make the problem meaningful for your child by putting it into context. For example they could add up two piles of sweets that they can eat later, find out how much money they have in two coins, find out how many goals were scored altogether in a football match... the possibilities are endless!</p>